

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP)
August 2021

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Albemarle - Pamlico

National Estuary Partnership



Sound Stories

August 2021



This month we're excited to announce that we are now accepting applications for the [2022 APNEP-NC Sea Grant Graduate Fellowship in Estuarine Research](#). We've been collaborating with NC Sea Grant to fund this Fellowship since 2015 and have been impressed with the wide-ranging projects, from surveys of fishermen to studies of harmful algal blooms, that have been funded through the program. An important goal of this Fellowship is to provide opportunities to graduate students of all backgrounds; students from traditionally underrepresented and underserved communities are encouraged to apply. Please reach out to Dr. John Fear at Sea Grant, jmfear@ncsu.edu; or Dr. Tim Ellis of APNEP, tim.ellis@apnep.org, with questions.

Stay tuned in the next few months for updates about a number of other APNEP projects and initiatives, including this summer's UNC Institute of the Environment-led Teacher Institute and the publication of a fact sheet about the value of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in the Albemarle-Pamlico estuary!

Sincerely,

APNEP News



Joint Fellowship in Estuarine Research

2022 APNEP-NC Sea Grant Graduate Fellowship Applications Now Open

APNEP & North Carolina Sea Grant are now accepting applications for our 2022 Graduate Fellowship in Estuarine Research! Fellows must conduct their research within the North Carolina portion of the Albemarle-Pamlico region and address one or more of the Fellowship's focus areas. **Applications are due October 29th.**

[Learn more and apply for the Fellowship](#)



Farewell to APNEP Summer Intern Abby McNaughton

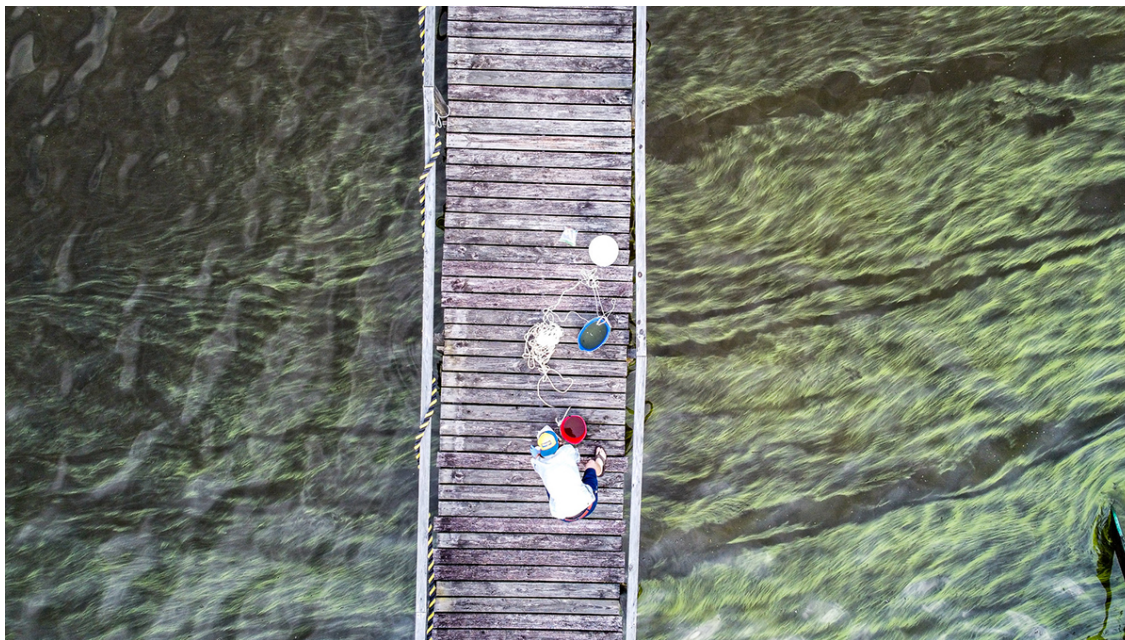
Our intern Abby McNaughton did a wonderful job on a variety of communications and outreach projects, and we were sad to see her go at the end of July. Stay tuned for publication of her work on the economic value of seagrasses, also known as submerged aquatic vegetation. We wish Abby the best of luck as she returns to complete her senior year at the The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill pursuing a degree in Environmental Studies with minors in Geography and Anthropology!



Updates to APNEP Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan In Progress

APNEP's [Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan](#), or CCMP, is the document that guides the Partnership's efforts to identify, protect, and restore the

the past decade, the APNEP Team has begun the process of updating the 2012 CCMP. It is anticipated that the updated CCMP, called the CCMP Addendum, will be adopted in 2022. Stay tuned for more updates!



Recent Article Highlights APNEP Water Quality Monitoring Efforts

In the first article in a new series on coastal water quality, Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership Program Scientist Dr. Dean Carpenter talked about the importance of monitoring and establishing long-term water quality data sets to inform management decisions to keep our rivers and estuaries healthy for fish, wildlife, and people! APNEP works with community partners, including those from Sound Rivers and UNC Institute of Marine Sciences also featured in the article, to determine indicators of water quality within the river basins that feed into the Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system. *Photo: A.Loven/UNC*

[Read the article](#)

Meeting Summaries

- **APNEP Leadership Council Meeting (August 4th):** The Leadership Council discussed progress in implementing the NC-VA Memorandum of Understanding

- **APNEP Science and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting (August 18th):** This meeting was STAC members' opportunity to share what they and perhaps their professional networks believe should have more visibility among APNEP stakeholders. As an initial step in "horizon scanning" or "futures research", the objective of this meeting was to have relatively brief ("flash") discussions on multiple science, technology, and management topics that will facilitate a post-meeting evaluation and synthesis to determine what topics deserve further near-term scrutiny by the STAC (and eventually greater APNEP).



Upcoming Events & Meetings

All meetings associated with APNEP's committees, Action Teams, and Monitoring & Assessment Teams are free and open to the public. For more information, please contact apnep@ncdenr.gov.

- **APNEP Leadership Council Meeting** | November 3rd, TBD (visit [our website](#) for details)

Current Grant Opportunities



- September 10: [205\(j\) Watershed Planning Grant](#)
- Ongoing: [NC Community Foundation Disaster Relief Fund](#)
- Ongoing: [NC Sea Grant Minigrants Program](#)

Partner Spotlight



Value of Oysters Celebrated through Recent Coastal Federation and Pew Environment Activities

If you weren't able to celebrate National Oyster Day on August 5th, you can extend your celebration into September through recent updates from the NC Coastal Federation and Pew Environment that highlight the value of oysters to the North Carolina coast. Pew [recently published an article](#) about NC's Oyster Blueprint, which focuses on the importance of oysters for North Carolinians, how the state has taken the lead to restore and grow its oyster population and mariculture industry, and how the Blueprint has led to real progress in oyster restoration. The most recent edition of the Oyster Blueprint itself was published in April; [check it out online](#) to learn more about these efforts!

Check out the NC Oyster Blueprint Website

What We're Reading

- [National Coastal Condition Assessment](#) (EPA)
- [Geographer explains origins of Outer Banks place names](#) (*Coastal Review Online*)

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